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Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Martin Belinga-Eboutou (Cameroon), on the basis of informal consultations

The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: empowerment and advancement of women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the ministerial communiqué adopted at its high-level segment of 1999,[1]

Acknowledging the important outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world",

Recognizing the progress achieved in placing poverty eradication at the centre of national and international policy agendas and in formulating poverty eradication policies and strategies,

Recognizing also that considerable progress has been achieved in increasing recognition of gender dimensions of poverty and in the recognition that gender equality is one of the factors of specific importance for eradicating poverty, particularly in relation to the feminization of poverty,

Recognizing furthermore that there has been increased attention to the goal of full employment and to policies aimed at employment growth,

Noting with concern the persistent problems in addressing the challenges of poverty eradication, gender inequalities, empowerment and advancement of women and employment, as reflected in the outcome documents from the recent five-year

[1] A/54/3, chap. III.

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reviews of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the World Summit for Social Development,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments and recommendations contained in its 1999 ministerial communiqué on the role of employment and work in poverty eradication: empowerment and advancement of women, and welcomes the outcome documents of the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly;

2. *Strongly encourages* Governments to pursue and strengthen their efforts to work towards achieving the goals of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and the empowerment and advancement of women by implementing the recommendations of the communiqué and the commitments they undertook at the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and their five-year reviews and the other major conferences and summits of the 1990s, as well as at the World Education Forum;

3. *Reiterates* the call that the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and the international community take consistent, coherent, coordinated and joint actions in support of national efforts to eradicate poverty, with particular attention to employment creation and work and the empowerment and advancement of women;

4. *Welcomes* the commitment undertaken by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session on the five-year review of the World Summit for Social Development to place poverty eradication at the centre of economic and social development and build consensus with all relevant actors at all levels on policies and strategies to reduce the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by one half by the year 2015, with a view to eradicating poverty;

5. *Reaffirms* the need for Governments and the international community, in the context of their efforts to achieve the empowerment and advancement of women, to address, as a matter of urgency, the challenges of poverty eradication and employment creation in a holistic approach, which includes alleviation of the negative effects on women associated with structural adjustment programmes and trade liberalization and the disproportionate burden borne by women living in poverty, as well as the identification and implementation of development-oriented and durable solutions which integrate a gender perspective to external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, including least developed countries;

6. *Urges* all Member States to take measures, at the national and international levels, to promote the effective mobilization of resources in order to facilitate the full implementation of the recommendations of the 1999 communiqué and the outcomes of the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly, and urges donor countries to strive to fulfil the yet to be attained internationally agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance as soon as possible and, in this regard, welcomes the efforts made by those donors that have reached and surpassed such targets;

7. *Urges* all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[2] to do so as soon as possible, and all States parties to fulfil their obligations under the Convention;

[2] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

invites all States to promote universal ratification and implementation of International Labour Organization Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Form of Child Labour, and to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families;[3]

8. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

9. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, particularly women's organizations, the media and the private sector to further interact and establish partnerships within and across countries aimed at contributing to poverty eradication and the empowerment of women.

[3] General Assembly resolution 45/158, annex.